



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/607,240	06/30/2000	Matthew Joseph Doyle	8147	8182

27752 7590 12/18/2002

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION
WINTON HILL TECHNICAL CENTER - BOX 161
6110 CENTER HILL AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OH 45224

EXAMINER

DECLoux, AMY M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1644

DATE MAILED: 12/18/2002

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.

09/607,240

Applicant(s)

DOYLE ET AL.

Examiner

Amy M. DeCloux

Art Unit

1644

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

THE REPLY FILED 02 December 2002 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.


Claim(s) rejected: 5-9.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
10. ☐ Other: _____

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: the outstanding 102 rejection has been maintained. Applicant traverses the rejection on the grounds that the present claims define a new method for a "new use", ie promoting whole body health by topical administration to the oral cavity of a composition comprising an antimicrobial agent optionally with a H2 antagonist, and as such is distinguishable from Bristol-Myers Squibb v Ben Venue Laboratories 58 USPQ 2d 1508 (CAFC 246 F.3d 1368 2001). Applicants contend that the present purpose of promoting whole body health is distinguishable over Bristol because the purpose is not disclosed in the prior art as in Bristol, and Applicant is not attempting to claim newly discovered results of a known process directed to the same purpose as in Bristol, but rather Applicant is claiming a "novel and unobvious process by virtue of a new use or a different purpose". It is noted by the examiner that the instant claims recite an identical process of administering an identical composition as that taught in the referenced art, and further that the court recognized in *In re Woodruff* 16USPQ2d 1934 1936 that it is a general rule that merely discovering and claiming a new benefit of an old process cannot render the process again patentable. *Verdegaal Bros., Inc. v Union Oil Co. of Calif.*, 814 F.2d 628, 632-33, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1054 (Fed. Cir.), cert. denied, 484 U.S. 827 (1987); *Bird Provision Co. v. Owens Country Sausage, Inc.*, 568 F.2d 369, 375, 197 USPQ 134, 139 (5th Cir. 1978). With respect to Applicant's case, it is the examiner's position that Applicant has discovered a new benefit (whole body health) of an old process (topical administration to the oral cavity of an antimicrobial agent optionally with an H2 antagonist).

Applicant also traverses the inherency aspect of said rejection, because the referenced art's disclosure relates to a method of using H2 antagonist compounds to treat periodontitis and gingivitis with an antimicrobial agent being optional. However the examiner contends that though the later agent is optional, the recited method is still taught by the referenced art. Applicant further traverses the rejection by contending that a second medicinal use of a substance already known to be useful in treating a disease is patentable, and cites several examples of such patents. However it is noted by the examiner that in all of Applicant's cited examples of said patents, the patient population which are subject to the methods of the patented first and second medicinal uses of a substance, differs. In applicant's case, the claimed methods are applied to the same population as the referenced methods. Therefore, though Applicant's arguments have been fully considered, they are not deemed persuasive and the rejection is maintained essentially for the reasons of record.


PATRICK J. NOLAN, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER
12/12/02